

De La Roche-Jewell Tenant House
1320 30th Street, N.W.
Washington (Georgetown)
District of Columbia

HABS No. DC-179

HABS
DC
GEO
102-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historical American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY HABS No. DC-179

DE LA ROCHE-JEWELL TENANT HOUSE

HABS
DC
6-EO
102-

Location: 1320 30th Street, N.W., (Georgetown), Washington, D.C. is located in the Northwest corner of 30th Street formerly Washington) and Dumbarton. It is the southernmost of a three unit row.

Present Owner: James L. Manogue

Present Occupant: Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Nichols, Jr.

Present Use: Private Residence

Statement of Significance: 1320 30th Street along with the two adjoining houses to the North is typical of simple rental housing of mid-19th century. While the interior is quite unpretentious, the exterior with the cast iron detailing and projecting entry porch forms a pleasant and humanly scaled streetscape.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: The building is located in Square 1242, lot 30 (formerly Square 72, lots 80 and 81). The following is an incomplete chain of title to the property. The references are to the Recorder of Deeds, Washington, D.C.

Lot 81

1804 Deed July 16, 1804, recorded January 5, 1805 in
Liber M folio 61
Thomas Beall
To
Thomas Sim Lee
Lot 81, being a corner lot 120' on west side of
Washington Street and 60' on north side of Dumbarton
Street

1813 Deed November 13, 1813, recorded November 15, 1813 in
Liber AF folio 431
Thomas Sim Lee
To
John Lee
Lot 81
Consideration: \$550.00

Deed December 23, 1813, recorded December 24, 1813 in
Liber AF folio 303

John Lee

To

Joseph Milligan

Consideration: \$650.00

1814 Deed April 1, 1814, recorded April 12, 1814 in
Liber AG folio 267

Joseph Milligan

To

Anna Reinagle

Consideration: \$1000.00

1815 Deed November 21, 1815, recorded December 1, 1815 in
Liber AK folio 259

Anna Reinagle

To

George Peter

Lot 81

Consideration: \$2000.00

1835 Deed May 27, 1835 recorded June 12, 1835 in
Liber WB 53 folio 265

George W. Peter

To

William S. Nichols

Lot 81

Consideration: \$750.00

1840 Deed July 9, 1840, recorded August 6, 1840 in
Liber WB 81 folio 298

William S. Nichols

To

Daniel Kurtz

Consideration: \$1000.00

Lot 80

1794 Deed July 11, 1794, recorded July 12, 1794 in
Liber B folio 54

Thomas Beall, son of George

To

Samuel Davidson

William Craik

William Hammond Dorsey

- 1797 Deed April 24, 1797, recorded September 12, 1797 in
Liber C folio 151
William Craik
William Hammond Dorsey
Samuel Davidson
To
Samuel Brooke
Lots 79, 80, 87 and 88
- 1814 Deed January 25, 1814, recorded May 5, 1814 in
Liber AG folio 362
Samuel Brooke
To
Joseph Brewer
- 1830 Deed September 28, 1830, recorded February 14, 1831 in
Liber WB 35 folio 1
John Marbury
Joseph Brewer
To
John Kurtz
"...Joseph Brewer by deed heretofore made and recorded
conveyed among other property in Georgetown lot 80 in
Thos. Beall's addition to Georgetown to said John
Marbury in trust to secure a certain debt due the
Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Georgetown and hath
recently sold the said lot of ground to John Kurtz
at private sale for the sum of \$800...Lot 80...
granting 60' on Dumbarton Street and running back N
of same breadth 120'"
- 1842 Deed October 12, 1842, recorded November 29, 1842 in
Liber WB 96 folio 454
John Kurtz
To
Daniel Kurtz
Daniel Kurtz now owns both lots 80 and 81
- 1851 Deed August 1, 1851, recorded January 8, 1852 in
Liber JAS 34 folio 244
Mary C. Kurtz
and children, and heirs of Daniel Kurtz
To
George F. de la Roche
Lots 80 and 81
Consideration: \$2800

- 1863 Deed November 6, 1863, recorded January 25, 1864 in
Liber NCT 25 folio 71
Jane I. de la Roche
To
Claudius B. Jewell
Consideration: \$2400
- 1889 Deed March 18, 1889, recorded March 10, 1881 in
Liber 1370 folio 490
Claudius B. Jewell
To
James Manogue
Consideration: \$16,000
- 1916 Deed January 31, 1916, recorded February 18, 1916 in
Liber 3859 folio 472
Mary J. Manogue
William H. Manogue
To
George W. Manogue
Parts of lots 80 and 81 in Square 1242 beginning at
the southeast corner of lot 81 and running north on
30th Street 20' to the middle of the dividing wall
between premises 1320-1322 30th Street, and running
west through said dividing wall 80' to an alley in
rear...

2. Date of erection: The houses were taxed in the Georgetown
Assessments of 1865-70 (National Archives, Microcopy 605,
Group 351, roll 12) as follows:

Claudius B. Jewell
South part lots 80 and 81
120' Dumbarton Street 60' Washington \$ 1,800
Improvements - Five Brick Houses, two stories
and back buildings \$ 7,600

George de la Roche heirs
North part lots 80 and 81
60' Washington 120' deep \$ 1,500
Improvements Two Story Frame Dwelling and
back buildings \$ 2,500

The five houses (three on Washington and two on Dumbarton)
are not shown on the Boschke map published in 1861.

3. Architect: Unknown
4. Original plans, construction, etc: None known
5. Alterations and additions: The house has been extensively remodelled, the major addition being the living room block with its projecting bay window in the rear.
6. Important old views: None known

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure:

1. Washington City directories provide the following tenant information:

1870-71	Henry Solmes [c] Beall corner Washington
1875	William G. Tanner, Beall corner Washington h. 41 Montgomery

(These tenants possibly occupied 1320 30th Street. The directories show no listing for a Washington Street address.) The following are definite occupants:

1914	Julius H. Holtzberg
1915-19	Frederick Stahl
1920	Grace Burtis
1921-24	Laura V. Warner
1925	Laura V. Warner and John H. Thompson
1926-27	Mrs. Alice Peters
1928	James B. Darcey
1929-33	Mrs. Alice Moxley
1934	vacant
1935	Henry Klumb
1936	Henry K. Arneson
1937-38	John P. Cowan
1939-40	George Roper
1941	Mrs. Esther Stonestreet
1942-43	John H. Vincent
1948	A. H. Alexander
1954	vacant
1954	Woodward Wiley
1960	William McE. Fleming
1962	Charles A. Nichols

2. George F. de la Roche who owned the property between 1851 and 1863 lived in the frame house on the north part of lots 80 and 81. He was the architect of Oak Hill Cemetery and St. John's Church.
3. For information on early owners of the land see the following:
The Beall Family HABS No. DC-154
Thomas Sim Lee HABS No. DC-168

Prepared by Ellen J. Schwartz
Architectural Historian
Commission of Fine Arts
August, 1968

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION:

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: 1320 30th Street with its neighbors to the north forms a pleasant row of mid-19th century tenant houses. The details are typical of other less diminutively scaled Victorian row houses in Georgetown, but the addition of Greek Revival type front stoops and small front gardens make this group distinctive.
2. Condition of fabric: The row is in good condition on the exterior. 1320 30th Street is in good condition on the interior. The house has been modernized for 20th century living, the major alteration being the extensive remodeling of the first floor living room (in the rear ell).

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: This two story brick row faces east onto 30th Street with its south wall 25' north of the centerline of Dumbarton Avenue. Its three bay east facade is 19' long and its depth, including the rear ell, is about 40'.
2. Foundations: The brick foundations are exposed about 2' at the east facade.
3. Wall construction: The structure is of brick bearing walls with header courses every eight rows. Number 1320 remains unpainted red brick while numbers 1322 and 1324 have had their facades painted white.

4. Framing: Interior partitions are of stud-wall construction.
5. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: The main facade of each of the three houses has a small wooden stoop. This is about 4' x 3' in size and is reached by three wooden steps. The stoop is canopied by a wooden roof attached to the facade below the second floor window sill and supported by a pair of wooden columns. These columns are tapering eight sided champion columns with pseudo-tuscan simple wood capitals. At the side to the doorway each canopy roof is supported by slightly projecting wood pilaster boards. The roof is built with projecting wood boxed gutters supported by a modillion band.
6. Chimneys: Two chimneys are present: one at the center of the south wall of the front parlor and one at the north wall of the rear living room.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The entry door at the east elevation is a 3' 2" four panel wood door which has been much altered and repaired. This door is surrounded with nine glass lights beginning at 3' from the floor. At each side are three lights and above is a four light fixed transom.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Windows (three in number) throughout the eastern portion of the first floor are 6/9 light double-hung wood sash 2' 10" wide. At the second floor all windows are 6/6 light double-hung wood sash. At the facade of all three units in the row windows at both floors are crowned by cast iron ornamental lintels.

At the facade all three houses in the row are fitted with two panel wood shutters (painted black) at both first and second floor windows.
8. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: The main portion of the house is roofed by a gable with its ridge running parallel to 30th Street while the rear section has a shed roof pitching down to the south. Both roofs are metal covered.

b. Cornice, eaves: The facade is capped by a wood modillioned cornice. The projecting wood boxed rain gutter is supported by wood brackets approximately 1' high and spaced between each window. There are no downspouts at the east facade.

c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: There are none.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: This simple side hall plan row house has two rooms per floor in the gabled front portion and one room per floor in the shed roofed rear ell. The first floor contains a front parlor, a kitchen and a rear living room. The second floor has three bedrooms and two baths. A basement is constructed under the rear portion of the house, but the eastern section has only a crawl space.
2. Stairways: The half-turn sidehall staircase presents to the entry hall a run of 14 7 1/2" risers from east to west to a landing and a 3 riser return to the second floor. The fruitwood railing is continuous from the hardwood Victorian newel post to the north wall at the second floor and is supported by two turned balusters per tread.

The basement is reached by an exterior stair at the south side of the rear portion of the house. It descends 10 brick risers from west to east.

3. Flooring: Pine floors of 19th century date remain.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Walls and ceilings are of plaster throughout.
5. Doorways and doors: Four panel 19th century wood interior doors which remain vary from 2' 6" to 2' 10" in width.
6. Decorative features and trim: First floor trim consists of 5" door and window moldings and an 8" molded top baseboard. Corners of the trim are mitered and doors do not have plinth blocks. At the second floor, door and window trim are reduced to 3" in width with those windows at the east being trimmed instead with 3 3/4" moldings. The baseboard at the second floor is 7 1/2" high. Neither floor has a cornice or chair rail. There are no other distinctive decorative features of 19th century date.

7. Notable hardware: Door knobs and hinges in the front section of the house are mainly of 19th century date but none are of special note.
8. Lighting: There is nothing of special note.
9. Heating: The major decorative feature of the house other than the stairway is the front parlor mantelpiece. The brick hearth and fireback are enclosed by a 4' 5" x 3' 11" high white marble mantelpiece with an 8" wide and 5' long mantel shelf. The under shelf lintel has its lower edge cut away forming a very shallow pointed arch over the fireplace opening.

The other mantelpiece extant in the house in the living room is an early 20th century neoclassic design in wood. The other fireplace at the second floor at the southeast bedroom has been walled-up and the mantelpiece removed.

Heating of the house at present is by radiator units in each room.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: This house is the southernmost of a group of three row houses of identical design. The row is set in the midst of residential northeast Georgetown.
2. Enclosures: The diminutive front yard is enclosed by a handsome black painted metal fence and gate about 2 1/2' in height. The rear yard is fenced at the west, south and north by a 6' high stockade fence.
3. Outbuildings: There are none.
4. Walks: The house is fronted by brick sidewalks at both the east and the south.
5. Landscaping: The front yards of all three row houses are planted with ivy and small shrubs. The rear yard of number 1320 is brick paved and edged with shrubs. A small pine tree stands at the northwest corner and the rear yard is shaded by a medium sized maple tree of the house to the north.

Prepared by William P. Thompson
Architect
Commission of Fine Arts
September, 1968